

**LCGCC Recommendations submitted by Dee Eggers (Biochar) - February 5, 2010**

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF  
BIOCHAR FOR CARBON SEQUESTRATION, INCREASED CROP YIELD, AND  
SOIL IMPROVEMENT

Whereas, there is a scientific consensus, as established by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and confirmed by the National Academy of Sciences, that the continued buildup of heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere threatens the stability of the global climate; and

Whereas, more effective and responsive management of greenhouse gas emissions and sequestration are necessary to protect the public health and safety, long term economic well-being, and environment of the State; and

Whereas, the interests of the State are inextricably connected to the proper management of greenhouse gas emissions and sequestration; and

Whereas, North Carolina farmers can benefit financially by participating in national and international carbon markets for carbon sequestration; and

Whereas, biochar can be generated from any vegetative material; and

Whereas, biochar can sequester carbon in soils for thousands of years; and

Whereas, biochar can enhance soil nutrient retention and increase crop yield; and

Whereas, biochar can prevent surface and ground water pollution from agrochemicals; and

Whereas, the production and use of biochar can provide additional jobs for North Carolina; and

Whereas co-production of biochar and gaseous fuels is easily achieved through pyrolysis; and

Whereas, additional research on biochar is needed for North Carolina farmers and industries to benefit from biochar technology; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to Department of Agriculture the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for the 20XX-20XX fiscal year and the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for the 20XX-20XX fiscal year to be distributed by the Department of Agriculture as grants of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) to develop biochar and its applied technologies in North Carolina, specifically:

- (1) Evaluating the effects of biochar on North Carolina agricultural soils and crop production.
- (2) Inventory potential organic waste sources for biochar.
- (3) Developing biochar production methods that minimize air pollution and energy inputs.
- (4) Any other research needed to develop biochar as the Department of Agriculture deems needed, not to exceed one hundred thousand (\$100,000) per fiscal year.

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**SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 20XX.